

CLAIMS

[1] A guidance display device for guiding a user's operation, said guidance display device comprising:

5 a guidance content holding unit operable to hold, in advance, guidance display contents respectively corresponding to display regions which are included in one screen and are to be operated by the user;

10 a guidance synthesis unit operable to obtain, from said guidance content holding unit, the guidance display contents respectively corresponding to the display regions, and to synthesize the obtained guidance display contents into one; and

15 a guidance display unit operable to display, on the screen, the guidance display contents synthesized by said guidance synthesis unit.

[2] The guidance display device according to Claim 1, further comprising

20 a determination unit operable to determine an obtainment order for obtaining the guidance display contents respectively corresponding to the display regions,

25 wherein said guidance synthesis unit is operable to sequentially synthesize the guidance display contents obtained in accordance with the obtainment order determined by said determination unit.

[3] The guidance display device according to Claim 2,

30 wherein said determination unit is operable to determine the obtainment order for obtaining the guidance display contents, in accordance with an order in which the user operates the respective display regions.

[4] The guidance display device according to Claim 2,
wherein said determination unit is operable to determine the
obtainment order for obtaining the guidance display contents, in
accordance with a focus position of one of the display regions on the
5 screen.

[5] The guidance display device according to Claim 2,
wherein said determination unit is operable to determine the
obtainment order for obtaining the guidance display contents, in
10 accordance with an order in which events are transmitted to a GUI
component.

[6] The guidance display device according to Claim 2,
wherein said determination unit is operable to determine the
15 obtainment order for obtaining the guidance display contents, in
accordance with an arrangement relation of the display regions.

[7] The guidance display device according to Claim 6,
wherein the arrangement relation of the display regions has a
20 hierarchical window structure.

[8] The guidance display device according to Claim 6, further
comprising
an arrangement relation management unit operable to
25 manage the arrangement relation of the display regions, and to
make a request of said guidance synthesis unit to start the
synthesizing of the guidance display contents in the case where the
arrangement relation is changed,
wherein said guidance synthesis unit is operable to obtain,
30 from said guidance content holding unit, guidance display contents
respectively corresponding to the display regions having the
changed arrangement relation, in the case of receiving the request

from said arrangement relation management unit, and to synthesize the obtained guidance display contents.

[9] The guidance display device according to Claim 1, further comprising

a region independent guidance content holding unit operable to hold region independent guidance contents that do not correspond respectively to the display regions,

wherein said guidance synthesis unit is operable to synthesize the guidance display contents obtained from said guidance content holding unit and the region independent guidance contents obtained from said region independent guidance content holding unit.

[10] The guidance display device according to Claim 1, further comprising

a guidance display position management unit operable to manage a use state and a display position of each of the guidance display contents, the use state indicating that each guidance display content is to be displayed or not to be displayed,

wherein said guidance display unit is operable to display the guidance display contents in accordance with the use state and the display position managed by said guidance display position management unit.

[11] A guidance display method for guiding a user's operation, said guidance display method comprising:

a guidance content holding step of causing a memory to hold, in advance, guidance display contents respectively corresponding to display regions which are included in one screen and are to be operated by the user;

a guidance synthesis step of obtaining, from the memory, the guidance display contents respectively corresponding to the display

regions and of synthesizing the obtained guidance display contents into one; and

a guidance display step of displaying, on the screen, the guidance display contents synthesized in said guidance synthesis step.

[12] A program for causing a computer to execute steps included in the guidance display method according to Claim 11.

[13] An LSI as a guidance display device for guiding a user's operation, said LSI comprising, in an integrated manner, the following:

a guidance content holding unit operable to hold, in advance, guidance display contents respectively corresponding to display regions which are included in one screen and are to be operated by the user;

a guidance synthesis unit operable to obtain, from the guidance content holding unit, the guidance display contents respectively corresponding to the display regions, and to synthesize the obtained guidance display contents into one; and

a guidance display unit operable to display, on the screen, the guidance display contents synthesized by said guidance synthesis unit.